



EWA NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 23

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 530 SOUTH KING STREET ROOM 400 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96813
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REGULAR MEETING MINUTES **THURSDAY, JUNE 8, 2006** **EWA BEACH PUBLIC LIBRARY**

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Gary Bautista called meeting to order 7:05 p.m. with a quorum present.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jeff Alexander, Gary Bautista, Alisa Bender, Tom Berg, Kurt Fevella, Richard Hardgrave, James Moylan, Normand Robert, Rey Rodriguez (late), Sai Tagovailoa-Amosa.

MEMBER ABSENT: Michael O'Neill.

GUESTS: Gary Omori, Officer Muraoka (HPD Weed & Seed), Lt. Carl Sojot (HPD), Capt. Thomas Simon (HFD), Cal Sueoka (Board of Water Supply -- BWS), Paul Murakawa (Department of Land and Natural Resources, Division of Aquatic Resources), Linda Hammel (Laulani Village Shopping Center), Coby Lynn, Glen Oamilda, Joyce Oliveira (Mayor's Representative; Mayor's Office staff), CDR Mark Sevilla (U.S. Navy); Austin Murigama, Ward Young, Josh (Laulani Village Shopping Center); Jim Propotnick (Governor's Representative; Director, Department of Public Safety), Emily Viglielmo (West Oahu Current), Representative Kymberly Pine, Elwin Spray (Neighborhood Commission Office staff).

INTRODUCTION OF BOARD MEMBERS: Chair Bautista introduced members present (Alexander, Bautista, Bender, Berg, Fevella, Hardgrave, Moylan, Robert), welcomed the audience to the meeting and asked audience members to introduce themselves. Chair Bautista noted the need for members and audience to speak to the chair and to observe reasonable time limits on speaking.

NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF BOARD OFFICERS: Chair Bautista announced that the initial agenda item was the election of Board officers for the term from June until May 31, 2007 (which is the end of the term of election of the current Board members).

Chair Bautista noted he was not a candidate for election as Board Chair and asked for nominations or volunteers. **Robert nominated Fevella and Alexander volunteered; there were no other nominations or volunteers and, without objection, Chair Bautista closed the nomination process.** Chair Bautista asked for the two nominees to speak of their commitment as Board chair. Alexander noted that he had previously served as Board chair, was experienced in controlling and curtailing the length of meetings. Fevella noted that he was fresh and new and brought a commitment to the Board as a community meeting that served as an advisory voice for the whole community, intended to bring the community into the meetings and to bring unity to the process. **Chair Bautista called for the vote, which was Alexander with 2 votes and Fevella with 6 votes; Chair Bautista declared Fevella elected as Board Chair for the term until May 31, 2007. Alexander: (Alexander, Hardgrave); Fevella (Bautista, Bender, Berg, Fevella, Moylan, Robert).** Robert extended congratulations to Fevella and expressed thanks on behalf of the Board to Gary Bautista for his service as Board Chair.

Chair Fevella called for nominations for Board Vice-Chair; Berg was nominated by Moylan, and, with no further nominations or objections, Berg was declared elected Board Vice-Chair by Chair Fevella.

Chair Fevella called for nominations for Board Secretary; Bender was nominated by Bautista and, with no further nominations or objections, Bender was declared elected Board Secretary by Chair Fevella.



Chair Fevella called for nominations for Board Treasurer; Moylan was nominated by Robert and, with no further nominations or objections, Moylan was declared elected Board Treasurer by Chair Fevella.

Chair Fevella called for nominations for Board Sergeant-At-Arms; Alexander was nominated by Bautista, with Alexander declining the nomination and Alexander nominating O'Neil, and, with no further nominations or objections, O'Neil was declared elected Board Sergeant-At-Arms by Chair Fevella.

REPORTS:

Honolulu Fire Department – Fire Captain Thomas Simon reported on a last meeting's question about fires in the plastic recycling bins, explaining that the HFD's primary concern is not the vandalizing of the bins by those starting fires but the extinguishing of the fires; however, he noted that both Honolulu Police Department and HFD will investigate to stop those starting the fires. He reported response statistics for the month of May 2006 as being 104 emergency alarms, including 3 structure, 2 rubbish and 66 medical emergencies. He also reported a monthly Fire Safety Tip:

Residents should remember that brush fire season has begun. A 30-foot wide clearing in between any structure and vegetation is recommended. Independence Day is coming around the corner, and the Fire Department asks if possible leave fireworks to the professionals. If you plan on using fireworks, please supervise older children and prevent younger children from handling any fireworks. The Honolulu Fire Department wishes the community a happy and safe Independence Day celebration.

Simon was available for questions; there were no further questions.

Honolulu Police Department – Lt. Carl Sojot reported crime statistics for the month of May 2006: five robberies, nineteen burglaries, thirty-three thefts, fifteen auto thefts, twenty thefts from vehicles, thirty-eight assaults, one ID theft, fifty-four motor vehicle collisions, two driving under the influence, forty-three CPD, and three drug arrests. The May total was for 479 arrests and 7135 calls. He reported a safety tip on reporting Drug Activity:

Drug activity in Hawaii is a problem of major concern to all citizens. Drugs affect not only individuals and their families, but also entire communities. If you suspect drug dealing in your neighborhood, call any of the following organizations: Honolulu Police Department/Narcotics Division at 529-3101; Attorney Generals Office/Drug Nuisance Abatement Unit at 586-1328; Drug Enforcement Administration at 541-1930. When you call any one of the agencies, provide the location, type of activity, date & time, license numbers of vehicles, descriptions of people, and if known, names of suspects and types of drugs. The Attorney General's Office as an email address: stopice@hawaii.gov and a web site, http://www.hi.us/ag/stop_ice_index.htm in order to report drug activity. HPD has an online reporting form. Contact HPD at honolulu.hpd.org/nv/nvform.htm. If you suspect drug dealing in your area, please contact any or all of the above listed agencies for assistance.

He responded to a question about miniature motor bikes which are being operated on community sidewalks, explaining that they are not legal street vehicles, but that a citizen's arrest cannot be made and instead there must be a HPD arrest for all traffic offences. He further explained that these types of vehicles, which are not registered or insured – as are other vehicles on streets – are covered by laws that the HPD does not create, so that any proposed changes need to be suggested to others. A

question about parking on both sides of streets in the Ewa Villages area, with the possibility that the streets would not be passable by emergency vehicles, was to be written up by Berg for a specific follow-up at a future meeting, with the discussion that a private street could also be monitored by the community condo association. Comments were made that the condo association parking and park use rules should be looked at by the association and the Board to review the overlap to insure proper community protection. A question about possible summer-time increases in crime included the comment from Sojot that there was currently no increase in community offences but that manpower was currently being re-allocated as the result of the shift from ten hour workdays to eight-hour workdays.

Rodriguez arrived, 7:30 p.m., nine members present.

Sojot reported that a suggestion for foot patrols would be forwarded for review but explained that generally the HPD has recognized many existing limitations with foot patrols.

Ewa Weed & Seed – Officer Muraoka reported on the HPD Weed and Seed project, with May 2006 statistics of ten adult arrests and forty-six juvenile arrests. He reported that these statistics were not included in the prior general HPD arrest totals. Alexander suggested a survey of those arrested to identify those who are now moving into the area from other community's park closures.

Board of Water Supply – Calvin Sueoka reported two breaks in the past month and distributed a backyard conservation handbook. The breaks were both on May 23, one on Fort Weaver Road and one on Ololani Street. He also suggested consideration of curtailing car washing (which could use up to 500 gallons of water). He reported a planned 24-inch water main at Honouliuli which will be installed under Geiger Road, going under the makai side on Kapolei Parkway, with the construction by Francis Lum (748-5710), from June 19 to January 2007.

Parks Department – No representative present.

Military Representative – Commander Mark Sevilla reported increased activity military traffic as the Rim of the Pacific exercise is starting (to run through mid-July). Chair Fevella asked if the ongoing leasing program would also cause an increase; Sevilla answered perhaps but said there should not be a major effect. Community and Board members discussed a need for more information on the Iroquois Point project with questions about general community access to the area. It was discussed that the gated community's establishment should be discussed, especially as it has been presented as a private contractor development rather than a military housing area. Bautista noted that this issue has been raised at several prior months meetings.

Mayor's Representative – Joyce Oliveira circulated a newsletter from Mayor Hannemann's office and reported on the following: (1) the Ewa recycling center has increased the questioning that the security guards do to frequent users to aid in discouraging abuse of the facility. She reported that abuse seems to have lessened but that it will continue to be monitored. (2) Mayor Hannemann has been attending community events in the general Leeward area and is planning a joint-legislators/City town meeting for the August time period. (3) The planning for the high occupancy transit corridor is continuing, with a major reporting date of June 24 coming up. (4) The trees along Old Ft. Weaver Rd. to New Ft. Weaver Rd. have been trimmed, but Bautista suggested they could be done to eliminate the branches meeting at the center of the street; which Oliveira explained that the canopy had been an intentional traffic calming design. Alexander said that the convenience center's operation is curtailed on weekends due to the quick filling of the bulk containers; Oliveira explained that the containers are hauled to be emptied but have to wait in line like the others. Chair Fevella asked about the processing fees for the transit tax which was being disagreed to by the State and the Council; Oliveira explained that Mayor Hannemann felt that the City's guarantee of the processing funds was warranted as it moves the project forward.

Bautista expressed the need for the City to enable access to the Haiku Stairs recreation area; Oliveira discussed the need to resolve a liability question, with Bautista expressing the need to see this project move forward.

Tagovailoa-Amosa arrived at 8:00 p.m., ten members present.

Tagovailoa-Amosa asked if the recently passed \$200 property tax exemption would apply to all; Oliveira said it would apply to everyone this fiscal year, as well as an ongoing exemption that applies to those with a \$50,000 income limit (Bill 80). Concern was expressed that the mass transit planned would be very expensive and that the planning would not result in the best project.

Councilmember Todd Apo – No representative present.

Governor's Representative – Jim Propotnick (Director, Department of Public Safety) was present, distributed a press release from Governor Lingle and was available to address concerns directed to the State. He reported a State Department of Transportation (DOT) meeting with Alexander and himself about traffic light timing on Fort Weaver Road, with the State DOT agreeing that the timing needs to be adjusted and that the State DOT would communicate the findings to the City Department of Transportation Services, which controls the sequencing of the timing. Chair Fevella noted that Hawaii based airlines had been telling the public, as well as State Courts and the State Airports, that they could not afford landing fees and were to be bankrupted but now seem to be able to match the cut rate tickets, and suggested that the State investigate the truthfulness of the Hawaii corporations. Oamilda suggested the State assist the community by providing the Deputy Sheriffs to aid in patrolling; Propotnick explained that the sheriffs have no police patrol authority and currently have too many tasks.

Senator Will Espero – Senator Espero was not present and was reported to be attending his son's graduation.

Representative Kymberly Pine – Representative Pine started to thank Propotnick, noted that he had just left, and continued to thank the State and Federal law enforcement officers for assisting in removing criminal from the community in a recent violators sweep and reported attending a press conference on freeway widening. She distributed a community report. She also recognized the start of the North-South Road and thanked everyone in the community for the efforts to get the road going. She asked for the community to support next year's efforts for funding the University of Hawaii West Oahu campus. She also asked for community members to become involved as volunteers in a graffiti removal clean up campaign, with Bautista suggesting a need for more penalties. Chair Fevella suggested removable benches at some Bus stops and for community leaders to be involved by adopting a wall at a graffiti site. Chair Fevella suggested that the Bus could review existing bus stops in Ewa Beach for duplicative stops, with Oamilda suggesting that the removals could be done with out the involvement of the Bus personnel.

Representative Rida Cabanilla – Berg distributed Representative Cabanilla's report, announced that she is in Greece at an alternative traffic seminar, and highlighted the following: (1) efforts to achieve a restripping of Geiger and Fort Weaver Road are continuing, with there now being two lanes making the turn. He noted that transit ideas include impact fees, public/private partnerships, toll roads for State roadways (City now can institute a toll road), and successful federal legislation to bring funds into Honolulu.

Honolulu High Occupancy Transit Corridor – Gary Omori invited the community to attend the planned presentation of June 24 at Kapolei Hale where a presentation will be made on preliminary route selections for the transit corridor. The presentation will be repeated at Aliamanu and Mission Memorial.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: The following announcements were made: (1) The next All Committee Meeting is scheduled for July 6, 2006 at 7 p.m. at Asing Park. (2) The next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for July 13, 2006 at 7 p.m. at Ewa Beach Public Library. (3) The Ewa Beach Ohana (chaired by Jeff Alexander) was honored by the Campbell Estate's Kapolei KOA award. (4) A Transportation Committee meeting will be held on September 6, 2006 at 7 p.m. at Asing Park. (5) Bautista announced that the Ewa Neighborhood Board is being re-installed as an OMPO CAC member (Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization Citizens Advisory Council).

NEW BUSINESS/PRESENTATIONS

Proposed Ewa Artificial Reef – Paul Murakawa, Department of Land and Natural Resources, Division of Aquatic Resources – Paul Murakawa, Department of Land and Natural Resources, Division of Aquatic Resources presented a discussion on the proposed Ewa Artificial Reef, which is intended to increase the fishing opportunities of Hawaii fishermen by creating a 5th reef (in a series of artificial reefs) out of concrete modules. The reef is mitigation for the Haseko marina development. In exchange for dredging the marina entrance channel, Haseko has agreed to help the State establish an artificial reef, which the State is locating off the marina entrance. The reef will be approximately 150 acres in size, more than a mile offshore, and at a depth of 60-120 foot (a “shallow water” reef). Planning documents and basic permits will be submitted in the period from June to December 2006, with additional State and Federal permits sought after that.

Berg expressed concern about debris in the water and the attraction it might serve to enable alien species to have a foothold outside of Pearl Harbor.

Laulani Village Shopping Center – Linda Hammel -- Linda Hammel discussed plans for the Laulani Village Shopping Center, accompanied by Austin Murigama, Ward Young and Josh. The shopping center is off of Fort Weaver Road, is being developed by Hawaii Asset Management, and is to include a grocer, a restaurant and other stores on 260,000 square feet. This presentation is an initial look, with properties not yet leased, to be started in early 2007 through 2008. The major entrance will be off of Keaunui Drive, which has yet to be built. The group will return as plans evolve.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Parks, Recreation and Community Affairs – No report.

Planning, Permitting & Zoning – No report.

Legislative & Capital Improvement Programs – Berg reported four motions were passed by the committee, which will be refined to be added to the Board agenda.

Executive – Chair Fevella reported that the committee chairs may need to adjust, including the need to identify regular representation to the OMPO CAC meetings, noting that the committees need commitment. Bautista asked if another member wanted transportation issues, with Hargrave volunteering to be the Board's representative to the OMPO CAC and the Transportation Committee chair. Bautista noted that the transportation issues are at a critical juncture and that regular OMPO attendance is extremely important as the transit corridor and other issues are currently being decided. Chair Fevella appointed Hardgrave as Transportation Committee chair, with the suggestion that Hardgrave work with Oamilda. Chair Fevella noted that he plans to make changes to the general agenda.

APPROVAL OF REGULAR MEETING MINUTES FOR MAY 11, 2006: Chair Fevella deferred approval of May 11, 2006 minutes.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Moylan reported the following account balances as of May 31, 2006: (1) Operating - \$551.96 (2) Publicity - \$0 (3) Refreshment - \$0.

COMMITTEE FOR CANDIDATE FORUM: Chair Fevella appointed Berg as chair of a "Candidate Forum" AD HOC Committee which could consider inviting candidates to give their ideas. Berg noted that Dick Beamer and then Tesh Malama had conducted this non-partisan forum in past years, with all board members and community members being welcome to be members.

ADJOURNMENT: Without objection, Chair Fevella adjourned the meeting at 9:55 p.m.

Submitted by: Elwin Spray, Neighborhood Commission Office staff